

LACTLD Report on ICANN 65

Marrakech, Morocco

24-27 June 2019



Rambla República de México 6125
Montevideo, Uruguay
+598 2 604 22 22

Contents

Introduction	3
DNSSEC Workshop	3
Tech Day	4
ccNSO: Members Meeting Day 1	5
Update on the ccNSO Council's priorities	5
ccNSO Working Group Updates	5
Policy Session	6
Joint meeting: ccNSO & GAC	9
ccNSO: Members Meeting Day 2	10
ccTLD Financial Contributions session	10
ccTLD News Session	10
ccNSO Organisational Review session: community consultation on draft recommendations	11
Joint meeting: ccNSO & GNSO Councils	11
Other sessions of interest to the ccTLD community	12
Policy Aspects of DNS over HTTPS (DoH), DNS over TLS (DoT) and Related Issues	12
GAC Two Character Country Codes Discussion	12
.AMAZON Discussions	13

ICANN 65 Meeting Report

Introduction

The Report reviews the ccNSO main sessions at ICANN65. During ccNSO Members Meeting, the Working Groups presented their latest updates. The recently established Internet Governance Liaison Committee (IGLC) introduced its members and commented some Internet Governance topics that have been identified as relevant. Also, the ccNSO members received an update on the ccNSO Council's priorities and participated in a community consultation on the ccNSO Organisational Review.

The cNSO Policy Session reviewed the latest developments carried out by the Retirement PDP WG, the IDN Policies Preliminary Review Team, and the Work Track 5. As usual, the ccTLD News Session offered some interesting presentations on different ccTLD management issues.

The LACTLD Report on ICANN65 also examines other sessions of interest to the ccTLD community. Some of the topics presented at these sessions were country codes at the second level; .AMAZON discussions; and policy aspects of DNS over HTTPS (DoH) and DNS over TLS (DoT).

DNSSEC Workshop

The DNSSEC Workshop was opened by Jacques Latour from CIRA. His presentation addressed the DNSSEC deployment around the world. He provided an analysis per region of TLD DNSSEC current implementation status and he also reviewed some DNSSEC deployment maps.

At the workshop, Tim April introduced the DNS Transparency Project. According to April, the DNS is a pull based system in which short term changes can be missed or unnoticed, resulting in damage to domain owners and their users. Therefore, he proposed creating an open, push based domain monitoring system. This system would be feed with public zone updates provided by registries in (near) real time, with no contact information needed. Interested parties would be able to review domain changes and filtered updates.

Tim April delivered a second presentation proposed by Geoff Huston (APNIC Labs) on the KSK Rollover. His analysis reviewed the steps carried out in each stage of the process, the impact and the lessons learned. The presentation also provided different viewpoints on the future KSK rollovers.

Wes Hardaker from USC/ISI also participated in the workshop program. He analyzed SMTP Security Options and offered a comparison between DANE/SMTP and MTA-STS (IETF RFC 8461). Additionally, he presented a DANE/SMTP Usage Report and examined some DNSSEC and DANE deployment statistics.

At the end of the workshop, Russ Mundy reviewed the steps TLD Operators, zone Operators, and ISPs can take to contribute to the DNSSEC implementation.

[Slides I](#)

[Slides II](#)

[Session recording](#)

Tech Day

At ICANN65, the Tech Day agenda covered DNS topics related to Blockchain, IoT, and Universal Acceptance.

Millegan from True Names LTD presented an open source project called Ethereum Name Service (ENS). He explained that the ENS runs entirely as a set of smart contracts on the Ethereum blockchain and does not require servers or permission to use the system. Millegan also presented a proposal for a DNS-ENS domain name integration. According to him, the goal of the proposed integration is to allow registrants to make ENS records for DNS domains they already own through the normal DNS registration system. The presentation covered some problems that would need to be solved and commented a series of possible solutions.

Jacques Latour, on behalf of the ICANN SSAC, talked about the [SAC105 Report](#) “The DNS and the Internet of Things: Opportunities, Risks, and Challenges”. Unlike other SSAC Reports, this one presents a tutorial-style overview of the DNS and the IoT as two co-evolving and interacting ecosystems. Latour reviewed the opportunities and risks raised in the SAC105 Report and he also summarized the main challenges identified by the ICANN SSAC: developing a DNS security library for IoT devices; training IoT and DNS professionals; deploying a cross-DNS operator system to share information on IoT botnets; develop a system to measure the evolution of the IoT; among others.

Tech Day featured a series of presentations on IDNs and Universal Acceptance. Jay Paudyal offered a presentation focused on the scope and main challenges of the IDNs. Paudyal identified the challenges for the IDNs Universal Acceptance and proposed a series of possible solutions: awareness; more compatible web browsers and applications; standardization of methods and processes (which is already taken care by Universal Acceptance Steering Group); support from registries and registrar to follow UASG guidelines; among others.

The discussions on the IDN and EAI deployment had a special focus on the end user rights and accessibility. Galila’s presentation reviewed and commented statistics on linguistic diversity and user perceptions. Jiankang Yao from CNNIC talked about EAI deployment efforts, best practices and recommendations to accomplish the Universal Acceptance across all email service providers.

Other topics covered at the Tech Day were: mail security and the DNS; a standards compliance testing carried about by Internet.nl; and RDAP implementation experience at .it Registry.

[Slides](#)

[Session recording](#)

ccNSO: Members Meeting Day 1

Update on the ccNSO Council's priorities

Katrina Sataki (.lv), chair of the ccNSO, updated the community on the current priorities of the ccNSO Council. The policy development process for the retirement of ccTLDs and the IDN ccTLD policy related work were the first priorities identified by the Council. Other key responsibilities involve the Council appointments and the ccNSO coming elections (ccNSO Council elections and ICANN Board seat 11).

The ccNSO Council also regard as a key priority the statements on topical issues that need to be outlined: Process Proposal for Streamlining Organizational Reviews; Fundamental Bylaws Amendment Proposal (IANA Naming Function Review); Draft Final Report of the Second ccNSO Review. The last priority identified by the Council was the implementation of the recommendations suggested at the ccNSO Review.

The session also presented a discussion on the ccTLD needs in connection with their active participation at the ccNSO.

[Session recording](#)

ccNSO Working Group Updates

- [TLD-OPS](#) update

The TLD-OPS is the global technical incident response community for and by ccTLDs (ASCII and IDN). Currently, it brings together more than 380 members who are responsible for the operational security and stability of 202 different ccTLDs.

At ICANN64, the Working Group held a face to face meeting aimed at drafting a Disaster Recovery / Business Continuity Plan Playbook. During that meeting, the TLD-OPS agreed on the Playbook goals. At the ICANN65 meeting, the TLD-OPS reviewed the progress made in the first draft of the Playbook.

The Working Group has agreed to have a Disaster Recovery / Business Continuity table-top simulation exercise at ICANN66. The members will be able to simulate a registry compromise, test the Disaster Recovery / Business Continuity Playbook against the predefined scenario and update the Playbook accordingly with the gaps, observations and lessons learned from the exercise.

- **Update by the Strategic and Operational Planning Standing Committee ([SOPC](#))**

The SOPC update was carried out as an interactive session moderated by Giovanni Seppia (.eu). The participants were able to review, comment and discussed [ICANN's key documents](#): the Draft [Operating Initiatives](#) for the Development of FY2021-FY2025 Operating & Financial Plan; and the Draft [Financial Assumptions and Projections](#) for the Development of FY2021-FY2025 Operating & Financial Plan.

The first draft Plan is a high-level document that presents the initiatives that were suggested in connection with the five strategic objectives defined and approved in the ICANN's Strategic Plan for the next five years.

The aim of the discussion was to assess whether the operating initiatives proposed are the right ones and will conduct to the strategic objectives achievement. The SOPC representatives at the meeting were able to collect the ccNSO members feedback on the initiatives in order to prepare the comments that will be submitted by the SOPC in the coming weeks.

- **Update by the Guidelines Review Committee ([GRC](#))**

Katrina Sataki (.lv) commented the progress made in the guidelines that are being developed by the GRC. Additionally, she explained how the GRC has been working with the GNSO on the development of a procedure for the Special IANA Function Review (IFR).

The Special IFR would only be launched by the ccNSO Council and GNSO Council if all the previous conflict resolution steps failed. Even though the probability to carry out this Special IFR is very low, the ccNSO and the GNSO should have a proper mechanism to address complex issues that could not be solved by all the previous defined procedures.

- **Update by the Internet Governance Liaison Committee ([IGLC](#))**

The Internet Governance Liaison Committee was established recently with the aim of coordinating and facilitating the participation and input of ccTLD managers in Internet Governance-related discussions and processes.

At the ICANN65 update, the Committee chair, Pierre Bonis (.fr) introduced the IGLC members and commented some Internet Governance topics that have been identified as relevant: local content; Internationalised Domain Names; regulations ; technical; digital divide; cybersecurity ; the role of the ccTLDs as promoters of the IGF dialogues.

The IGLC Terms of Reference are available [here](#) and its Wiki space, [here](#).

[Working Group updates slides](#)

[Session recording](#)

Policy Session

- **Update by the Empowered Community Administration ([ECA](#))**

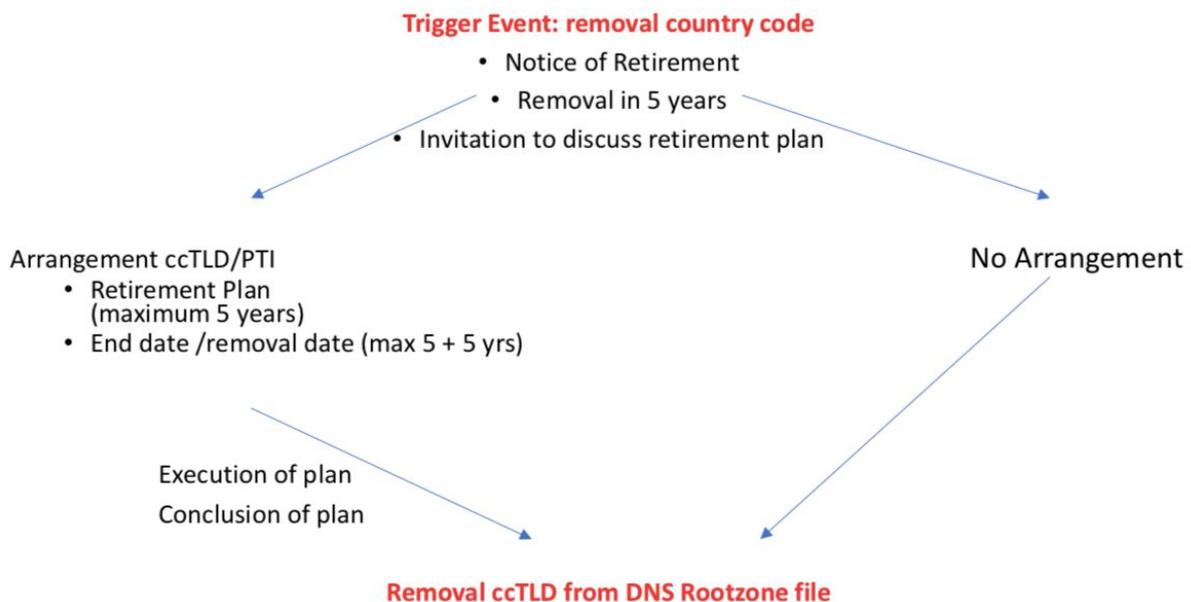
The Empowered Community Administration is the administrative body through which the Empowered Community acts. Each of the Decisional Participants of the Empowered Community (ccNSO, ALAC, ASO, GAC, and GNSO) designates one representative to the ECA.

At ICANN65, Stephen Deerhake, ccNSO appointed member, informed about the ECA upcoming activities related to:

- The fundamental Bylaw change on the composition of the IANA Naming Function Review Team. The change requested by the ccNSO Council is currently open for public comment.
- The two Standard Bylaw changes related to the leadership structure for both SSAC and RSSAC. The changes are also published for public comment.
- Potential upcoming Empowered Community Public Forums at ICANN66.
- **Update by the Policy Development Process Retirement Working Group ([PDP-ret](#))**

Since ICANN64, the Retirement PDP WG has closed a series of issues: applicability of the Policy; definition of the trigger event (the removal of the country code from the list of country names in ISO 3166-1); end date for the retirement process; removal process; and the duration of the removal process.

Current status of the Retirement Process:



The Working Group continues discussing a number of topics that should be defined: the oversight of the retirement process; process steps for the exceptionally reserved country codes; how to proceed if there is a change of manager during retirement process; testing policy scenarios and stress tests.

Since the IDN ccTLDs are not included in the ISO 3166-1 standard, the Working Group decided to defer the IDN ccTLDs retirement to the IDN ccNSO PDP.

At the end of the session, the ccNSO members raised the lack of participation of the GAC during the process and ccNSO consultations. The Working Group agreed that the GAC input would be very much appreciated.

- **Update by the ccNSO IDN Policies Preliminary Review Team ([IDN PRT](#))**

The Preliminary Review Team (PRT) presented the roadmap defined to update the IDN ccTLD policy. This roadmap is intended to lead the team efforts from the Fast Track Process and the overall IDN ccTLD policy proposals to a Policy for the Selection of IDN ccTLD strings and an amended Article 10 in ICANN Bylaws (that would allow the inclusion of IDN ccTLD in the ccNSO).

According to the roadmap proposed, the first step was to conclude the evolution of the Fast Track Process and the ccNSO IDN PDP Working Group 2. Secondly, the PRT would conduct a gap analysis on the overall IDN ccTLD Policy (PDP 2). Then, the Team would initiate the Bylaw change process in order to allow the inclusion of IDN ccTLDs in the ccNSO and it would launch PDP 4 with the aim of proposing a policy to select IDN ccTLDs strings.

Currently, the PRT is working on the second step. It is conducting a lightweight gap analysis on the overall IDN ccTLD Policy in order to identify topics and issues that will need to be addressed. At the session, the PRT representatives commented their preliminary findings:

- The proposals for the Bylaws changes do not require major updates.
- The team in charge of the PDP 4 would need to develop policy around retirement of IDN ccTLD and variant management.
- Relevant parts of IDN ccTLD selection processes, criteria and procedures would have to be updated (confusing similarity).
- The principles underpinning the policy would have to be reconfirmed (ensure consistency of delegation, transfer, revocation and retirement process between IDN ccTLD and ASCII ccTLD).

The PRT will report its advice to the Council by August and will ask the Council guidance on the steps forward.

- **New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP. Work Track 5 (WT5)**

Annebeth Lange, co-chair for WT5, offered an update on the current status of the Work Track 5 discussions. Lange explained that, according to the Supplemental Initial Report, the Recommendations 2-9 for country and territory names reserve as unavailable at the top level:

- Two-character ASCII strings
- Alpha-3 code listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard
- Long-form name listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard
- Short-form name listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard
- Short or long-form name association with a code that has been designated as “exceptionally reserved” by the ISO 3166 Maintenance Agency.
- Separable component of a country name designated on the “Separable Country Names List.”

- Permutation or transposition of any of the names included in the four (4) bullets above.
- Name by which a country is commonly known, as demonstrated by evidence that the country is recognized by that name by an intergovernmental or treaty organization.

Lange stated that most of these preliminary recommendations are in line with the 2012 Applicant Guidebook, with some refinement. She added that ccTLDs and GAC representatives agree in general terms that there should not be substantial changes from the 2012 rules. However, the gTLD representatives express a strong interest for the release of the 3-letter combinations. The reservation of the names listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard in all languages is another disputable issue that is under discussion. According to Lange, if the consensus is not achieved, the current implemented rules will probably stand.

Since the Kobe meeting, the Work Track 5 has been working to reach agreement on a set of recommendations that will be sent to the full Working Group for their consideration and formal consensus call.

- **Update by the Study Group on the Use of Emoji in Second Level Domain Names ([emoji SG](#)).**

The Study Group was established to provide the ccTLD community and the Council a comprehensive overview of the issues associated with the use of emoji as second level domains, and the need for and current practice by ccTLD managers to allow emoji's as second level domains.

The session reviewed the activities the Study Group has been carrying out. Recently, the Group published a Draft Final Report and it is currently looking for feedback from the community. Before publishing this Draft Report, the Study Group contacted twice ccTLD managers who are currently accepting registration of emoji in order to inform them on the Report and seek their perspectives.

Based on the comments received, the Study Group will discuss a final set of recommendations. Once the Report is finalized, the Study Group will submit it to the ccNSO Council.

According to the Chair, the Study Group is committed to promote, continue and foster a full and frank dialogue with ccTLDs accepting emojis as second level domains.

[Slides from the Policy Session](#)

[Session recording](#)

Joint meeting: ccNSO & GAC

At the joint meeting, the ccNSO representatives updated the GAC members on the progress made by ccNSO IDN Policies Preliminary Review Team and by the Policy Development Process Retirement Working Group. Regarding the Retirement PDP, the ccNSO members highlighted the importance of the GAC input on the Working Group policy development progress.

[Meeting transcription](#)

ccNSO: Members Meeting Day 2

ccTLD Financial Contributions session

The session offered a general overview on the ccTLD invoicing process and timeline and on the ccTLD contributions reporting process.

The ICANN Billing Team informed that a series of FAQs have been prepared to cover most common billing questions. This FAQs will be posted at <https://www.icann.org/> and revised annually.

[Slides](#)

ccTLD News Session

Gabriela Ramirez and Robert Martin-Legene from NIC Argentina presented Blockchain Federal Argentina (BFA). This initiative aims to promote a federal platform that allows all interested parties to deploy transparent and reliable services and applications. BFA was conceived within a collaborative framework between the different sectors and it seeks to reproduce this multistakeholder model in its governance and management. By the same token, BFA multistakeholder structure ensures the representation of all sectors in the decision-making process.

NIC Argentina representatives explained BFA main features (permissioned; lightweight model; no cryptocurrency; free transactions; open software; off-chain storage) and some of its use cases. Additionally, they described how ccTLDs can reinforce their management and operations by participating in a platform such as Blockchain Federal Argentina.

The ccTLD news session continued with the InternetNZ presentation. Jordan Carter and Brent Carey from .nz commented the emergency response the registry has developed following the terrorist attack on the Christchurch Muslim community of 15 march 2019. They explained that .nz is currently carrying out a policy review with the aim of making .nz secure, open and accessible for all New Zealanders.

Cameron Boardman and Bruce Tonkin from auDA gave a presentation on the process that lead the registry to introduce the direct registration at the second level of .au. They described the research, reviews and consultations developed and explained the changes in .au policies that were implemented in order to introduce the direct registration. One of these changes was the inclusion of a Public Interest Test that would allow national enforcement bodies and agencies to cancel or suspend a registered domain. Finally, they commented some of the .au coming projects: Internationalised Domain Names and the development of a new brand framework for .au.

Also, at the ccTLD News Session, Kristina Hakobyan from .am offered a presentation focused on the ccTLD history, its current operations and future plans. NIRA's Executive Secretary, Mrs. Edith Udeagu, explained .ng domain name auctions process through Twitter. NIRA's presentation covered the legal and policy considerations in its auction and bidding processes.

[Slides from the ccTLD News Session](#)

[Session recording](#)

ccNSO Organisational Review session: community consultation on draft recommendations

Meridian Institute, the independent examiner conducting the ccNSO2 Review, has published its [draft final report for public comment](#). The draft final report contains an assessment of the ccNSO and recommendations for improving its operations.

At this session, Meridian Institute representatives examined the recommendations and suggestions included in the draft report. These recommendations cover different ccNSO organisational aspects such as: continuing purpose; structure and operations (Working Groups; Committees; ccNSO Council; barriers to participation; orientation and onboarding); and accountability issues (accessibility and transparency of information; accountability of the ccNSO Council; independent reviews).

A series of recommendations were related to the ccNSO website and the need to update it as it is a key tool that supports accountability, transparent communication, and efficient operations.

Several ccNSO members commented the recommendations proposed. They raised their concerns regarding some assumptions and statements included in the draft report. ccNSO members asked the independent examiner to review and reconsider the assumptions and recommendations made on the participation barriers and on the lack of volunteers.

[Session recording](#)

Joint meeting: ccNSO & GNSO Councils

Both Councils met and discussed the items defined in the joint meeting agenda. The meeting began with an update from the GNSO on the New gTLD Auctions Proceeds Cross-Community Working Group. The Working Group has made considerable progress and it still has three significant issues that need to be defined: the organizational structure/mechanism to allocate the auction proceeds; the project evaluation framework that will be used after a few years; and the advisory structure that will examine the projects.

Secondly, both Councils addressed the process to appoint/approve the Customer Standing Committee full list of candidates by mid-September as the new members and liaisons have to start their terms at the CSC on October 1.

The third agenda item was the agreed procedures pertaining to the Special IANA Functions Review (Special IFR). The Special IFR would only be launched by the ccNSO Council and GNSO Council if the three previous conflict resolution steps failed. If this highly unlikely event would happened, the ccNSO and the GNSO would have to decide, in consultation with other SO/ACs, whether to launch a Special IANA Function Review. The ccNSO Guidelines Review Committee will meet with the GNSO Draft Team to discuss the proper procedures that should be in place to carry out the Special IFR.

Regarding the regular IANA Naming Function Review, the ccNSO Council requested the GNSO as Decisional Participant to support the Bylaws Amendment Proposal submitted by the ccNSO.

The Councils also discussed how the ccNSO and the GNSO could work collaboratively in order to identify common areas of concerns regarding the evolution of the ICANN multistakeholder model. The ccNSO Strategic and Operational Planning Standing Committee will meet with the GNSO corresponding Committee to start discussing jointly ICANN strategic planning and multistakeholder model.

Finally, the ccNSO and the GNSO Councils talked about how to structure the joint policy development efforts regarding the confusing similarity of gTLDs and ccTLDs strings and variant management. They agreed to create a mailing list to allow an initial exchange of information and ideas among all interested ccNSO and GNSO members.

[Meeting transcription](#)

[Meeting recording](#)

Other sessions of interest to the ccTLD community

Policy Aspects of DNS over HTTPS (DoH), DNS over TLS (DoT) and Related Issues

The session offered a general overview of DoH and DoT for a non-technical audience. The speakers (Danny McPherson and Peter Koch) discussed some potential deployment concerns related with DoT/DoH and they also addressed some policy questions in this regard.

The speakers stated that DNS-over-HTTPS (DoH) and DNS-over-TLS (DoT) are two new protocols for transporting DNS data that support encryption. In other words, DoH and DoT provide channel confidentiality. However, standardization on how DoH and DoT resolvers are configured in applications and operating systems is still ongoing and current deployments are limited.

Presentation conclusions:

- Some potential deployments of DoH and DoT may impact traditional policy control points in DNS resolution.
- Standardization on how DoH and DoT resolvers are configured in applications and operating systems is still ongoing.
- For registry and registrar operators there is currently little impact from DoH and DoT.
- It is too early to say what the impact of DoH and DoT on users will be.
- The need for DNSSEC and QNAME Minimization has not changed.

[Slides](#)

[Session recording](#)

GAC Two Character Country Codes Discussion

The current registry agreement between ICANN and the gTLD registry operators allows the release of country codes at the second level without the need to notify or request the authorization from the corresponding government or ccTLD. According to the November 2016 Board Resolution, it is no longer mandatory for the registries to notify governments of the plans for their use of two-letter codes, nor are registries required to seek agreement of governments when releasing two-letter country codes at the second level. [ICANN would authorize](#) the release of letter/letter two-character ASCII labels based on the registries commitment to implement measures to avoid confusion with corresponding country codes.

Prior to the 2016 Board Resolution, the GAC had advised ICANN to maintain a mechanism that would notify the relevant governments when the request for the release of the corresponding two-letter country codes arise. However, this advice was not followed by the ICANN Board Resolution. Additionally, the GAC states that the Board has failed to explain whether the change in the release process was consistent with GAC's previous advice.

As was noted in the [ICANN65 Communiqué](#), the GAC remains concerned that GAC advice on the procedure for the release of country codes at the second level under new gTLDs was not taken into consideration as intended, and advises that meaningful steps be taken to ensure this does not happen in the future.

[Session recording](#)

.AMAZON Discussions

During the joint meeting between the GAC and the ICANN Board, several GAC members expressed their concerns about the recent Board decision to find the Amazon corporation proposal of 17 April 2019 acceptable and directing the ICANN org to continue processing the .AMAZON applications according to the policies and procedures of the New gTLD Program. Concerns were also expressed with the possibility of the outcome in the .AMAZON case becoming a precedent for similar cases for delegation of sensitive strings that the GAC has stressed as raising public policy concerns in future. Several members referenced the [ICANN60 Abu Dhabi Communiqué](#), where:

- A. in section "V. Follow-up on Previous Advice", with regard to the "Application for .amazon and related strings", "[t]he GAC expressed the need to find a mutually acceptable solution in the case of the .Amazon gTLD applications for the countries affected and for the Amazon corporation"; and
- B. in section "VII. GAC Consensus Advice to the Board", with regard to "Applications for .amazon and related strings", "[t]he GAC recognizes the need to find a mutually acceptable solution for the countries affected and the Amazon corporation to allow for the use of .amazon as a top level domain name".

As stated in the [ICANN65 Communiqué](#), some GAC members did not necessarily agree with the basis of these concerns nor with the interpretation of GAC advice on this subject. On another note, some GAC members, during the discussion with the ICANN Board, urged all parties to

exhaust all means consistent with applicable procedures to facilitate a mutually acceptable solution.

ICANN response to the GAC members involved emphasized that the .AMAZON applications were authorized according to the rules and procedures defined in the Applicant Guidebook. Also, ICANN remarked that there had been repeated attempts to engage in facilitation discussions between the ACTO member states and Amazon corporation. However, these efforts have turned out to be unsuccessful.

Finally, the GAC —as a follow-up on previous advice— asks the Board to explain in writing whether and why it considers that its decision to proceed with the .AMAZON applications, based on a proposal that the eight Amazon countries considered did not address their concerns, complies with GAC advice.

You can rate this Report [here](#)